

CHAPTER IX

A THREE-YEAR ECLIPSE

FOLLOWING the collapse of the Second

Revolution

Dr. Sun Yat-sen suffered a three-year eclipse, which was spent in exile, in Japan. As previously mentioned, on reaching that country he founded a new Party, known as the *Chung Hua Ke Min Tang* (Chinese Revolutionary Society), but its membership was very small, and did not include several prominent members of the Kuomintang, such as Wang Ching-wei and Huang Hsing, who would neither submit to Dr. Sun's arbitrary methods, or to being finger-printed. Their places were taken by Chen Chi-mei, a man of very dubious reputation, and Hu Han-min. Dr. Sun continued to intrigue in Japan. Numerous papers published, early in 1915, what purported to be the text of two contracts concluded by him with certain Japanese financial interests, under which he was to be supplied with funds, and with rifles and military advisers, to stage another revolt. There is much circumstantial evidence to suggest that these documents were actually executed. For at the time, March 1915, Yuan Shih-kai was being pressed by the Japanese Government

to comply
with the famous Twenty-one
Demands, and, in
April, a Mandate was issued in Peking,
stating that
Dr. Sun's agents were attempting
to instigate
incidents between the Chinese and
Japanese, and